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ARA/RPP - LSCOTT

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TO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY
OJCSMC WASHDC PRIORITY

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E.O. 12065: GDS 7/30/86 (CHEEK, J)

AGS: EAID, MASS, PEPR, AR, GT

SUBJECT: GROWING ARGENTINE INVOLVEMENT IN GUATEMALA

REF: (A) GUATEMALA 2986; (B) OJCSMC WASHINGTON DC (DTG 122115Z MAY 80); (C) OJCSMC WASHINGTON DC (DTG 122113Z MAY 80); AND (D) OJCSMC WASHINGTON DC (DTG 232314Z MAY 80)

1. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ ENTIRE TEXT.

2. DURING MAY, DEPARTMENT RECEIVED A NUMBER OF REPORTS SUGGESTING GROWING GOVERNMENT OF ARGENTINA (GOA) COOPERATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF GUATEMALA (GOG). AMONG THE INDICATORS OF THIS NEW RELATIONSHIP WERE THE MAY 4-7 VISIT TO GUATEMALA BY THE ARGENTINE VICE FOREIGN MINISTER,
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AN APPARENT ARGENTINE OFFER TO SUPPLY A \$30 MILLION LINE OF CREDIT AND THE POSTING OF AN ARGENTINE ARMY ATTACHE IN GUATEMALA FOR THE FIRST TIME. REF C SUGGESTED THAT THE ARGENTINES ALSO HOPED EVENTUALLY TO SELL MILITARY

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Department of State, A/GIS/IPS/SRP

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EQUIPMENT AND PROVIDE ADDITIONAL TRAINING TO THE GUATEMALAN ARMED FORCES.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY REPORTING ON HOW THIS NEW RELATIONSHIP IS EVOLVING. HAVE THE ARGENTINES

ENTERED INTO ANY SPECIFIC AGREEMENTS WITH THE GOG TO SELL MILITARY EQUIPMENT, TO TRAIN GUATEMALAN MILITARY OR POLICE PERSONNEL, OR TO FACILITATE ARGENTINE EXPORTS TO GUATEMALA? IS THE EMBASSY AWARE OF ANY OTHER AREAS OF COOPERATION? IS THE ARGENTINE OFFICIAL MISSION IN GUATEMALA LARGE AND ACTIVE? HOW MANY ARGENTINE MILITARY PERSONNEL ARE ASSIGNED, PERMANENTLY OR TEMPORARILY? WHAT ARE THEIR FUNCTIONS AND ACTIVITIES? MUSKIE

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